Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of formal approval
7.	Maharashtra	3931
8.	Madhya Pradesh	4
9.	Punjab	3300
10.	Rajasthan	20
11.	Tamil Nadu	14594
12.	Uttar Pradesh	946
13.	West Bengal	150
	TOTAL:	61015

Import of palm oil

2509. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given approval for the import of palm oil in large quantities in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the quantum of import in each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Under the present import policy, import of palm oil is free. Government does not give any specific approval for import of palm oil. The details regarding quantum of import of palm oil in last three years is as follows:

(Lakh MT)

Year	Palm Oil
2005-2006	24.49
2006-2007	27.66
2007-2008 (April-August, 2007)	14.46

SOURCE : DGCI&S

The domestic production of edible oils is in-sufficient to meet the domestic demand. Imports are permitted to maintain uninterrupted supply of edible oils at affordable prices to the consumers.

Places selected for increasing rubber production

2510. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved recently some projects to increase rubber production in the country; and